

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The fatty acid ester mixture of claim 5, wherein the fatty acid is a mixture containing about 40% to about 50% by weight of a C₁₆ fatty acid and about 45% to about 55% by weight of a C₁₈ fatty acid.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) A fatty acid ester mixture of pentaerythritol, wherein the fatty acid has 6 to 22 carbon atoms, the esters have a ratio by weight of C₁₆/C₁₈ fatty acid of about 0.7 to 0.9, and wherein said ester mixture contains less than 0.3% by weight of esters containing C₁₇ fatty acid acyl groups, and has a melting point of at least 30 °C, with a percentage content of (a) about 12% to about 19% by weight monoesters, (b) about 25% to about 35% by weight diesters, (c) about 30% to about 40% by weight triesters, and (d) tetraesters,

wherein said fatty acid ester mixture of pentaerythritol is incorporated as a wax component in a cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical composition.

6-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical composition comprising the wax ester mixture of claim 5.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 11, wherein said C₆-₂₂ fatty acid is present as a mixture and comprises about 40% to about 50% by weight of a C₁₆ fatty acid and about 45% to about 55% by weight of a C₁₈ fatty acid.

14. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 11, wherein said wax ester mixture is present in a quantity of about 0.1% to about 20% by weight.

15. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 11, further comprising an additional wax component.

16. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 15, wherein said wax component is selected from the group consisting of C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty alcohols, C₁₂₋₂₄ partial glycerides and mixtures thereof.

17. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 11, further comprising at least one nonionic surfactant.

18. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 17, wherein said nonionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkyl oligoglycosides, alkenyl oligoglycosides and mixtures thereof.

19. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 11, further comprising at least one oil component which is liquid at 25 °C.

20. (Previously presented) The cosmetic composition according to claim 11, comprising:

- (a) about 0.1% to about 10% by weight of said wax ester mixture;
- (b) about 1% to about 25% by weight of at least one oil component which is liquid at 25 °C;
- (c) about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of a wax component selected from the group consisting of C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty alcohols, C₁₂₋₂₄ partial glycerides, and mixtures thereof;
- (d) about 0.5% to about 10% by weight of a C₈₋₂₄ alkyl oligoglucoside; and

(e) water.

21. (Previously presented) The fatty acid ester mixture of claim 5, wherein the fatty acid contains 6 to 22 carbon atoms and comprises unbranched fatty acids.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) The fatty acid ester mixture of claim 5 wherein said fatty acid comprises a mixture of C₆₋₂₂ fatty acids.

24. (Previously presented) The fatty acid ester mixture of claim 21 wherein said fatty acid comprises a mixture of C₆₋₂₂ fatty acids.